

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

KRONE GMBH
Beeskowdamm 3-11
D-14167 Berlin
GERMANY

[rubber stamp]

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION

(PCT Rule 66)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 02-005 PC/868		Date of mailing (day/month/year) 09/01/2004
International application No. PCT/EP03/07880		REPLY DUE within 2/00 months/days from the above date of mailing
International filing date (day/month/year) 18/07/2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 08/08/2002	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01R13/66		
Applicant KRONE GMBH		


1. This written opinion is the first drawn by this International Preliminary Examining Authority.
2. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - II ☐ Priority
 - III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - V ☒ Reasoned statement according to Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI ☐ Certain documents cited
 - VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application
3. The applicant is hereby **invited to reply** to this opinion.

When? See the time limit indicated above. The applicant may, before the expiration of that time limit, requests this Authority to grant an extension, see Rule 66.2.d).

How? By submitting a written reply, accompanied, where appropriate, by amendments, according to Rule 66.3. For the form and the language of the amendments, see Rule 66.8 and 66.9.

Also For an additional opportunity to submit amendments, see Rule 66.4.
For the examiner's obligation to consider amendments and/or arguments, see Rule 66.4bis.
For an informal communication with the examiner, see Rule 66.6.

If no reply is filed, the international preliminary report will be established on the basis of this opinion.
4. The final date by which the international preliminary examination report must be established according to Rule 69.2. is: 08/12/2004

Name and mailing address of the IPEA  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Netherlands Tel. +31 70 340-2040 Fax: + 31 70 340-3016	Authorized officer/Examiner Examiner Formalities officer (including extension of time limits) Tel. (+49-89) 2399 2828
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I. Basis of the opinion

The present written opinion is based on the documents of the application as initially filed.

V. Reasoned statement according to Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

1. In the light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as claimed in at least one of the claims does not seem to satisfy the criteria stipulated in Article 33(1) PCT, that is to say it does not seem to be novel or to involve an inventive step (see the international search report, in particular the cited documents X and/or Y and the references of the corresponding claims).
2. If amendments are submitted, the Applicant must meet the requirements of Rule 66.8 PCT and indicate what, in the application as initially filed, may serve as basis for the amendments made (Article 34(2)(b) PCT), otherwise there will be a risk of these amendments being ignored when drawing up the international preliminary examination report.
The Applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that in the event of an unnecessarily large number of independent claims, an examination will not be carried out on any of the claims.

NB: Should the Applicant decide to demand a thorough, detailed examination, an international preliminary examination report would then normally be prepared immediately. Exceptionally, the examiner may prepare a second written opinion, if this has been expressly requested.

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Name and mailing address of the IPEA European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Netherlands Tel. +31 70 340-2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340-3016	Authorized officer/Examiner Salojärki, K Formalities officer (including extension of time limits) Abad Mesa, B Tel. +31 70 340-4354
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I. Basis of the opinion

1. This opinion has been drawn up on the basis of *(replacement sheets submitted by the receiving office pursuant to Article 14 are considered for the purposes of this Opinion to be "as originally filed")*:

Description, pages:

1-7 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-12 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/4-4/4 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of the following documents:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been written disregarding (some of) the amendments, which were considered as going beyond the description of the invention, as filed, as is indicated below (Rule 70.2(c)):

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-12
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. The following documents are cited:

D1: EP-A-0 651 465
D2: GB-A-2 286 731
D3: DE 100 29 649 A
D4: FR-A-2 704 360
D5: US-A-5 754 409
D6: US-A-5 601 451
D7: US-A-4 767 338

2. The document D1 discloses (the references in brackets relate to this document), see Claim 1:

A distribution box connection module for telecommunications and data technology, comprising a housing in which externally accessible input and output contacts are arranged for the connection of cables and cores, with the housing having a cavity in which at least one printed circuit board (106) is arranged, with the input and output contacts being arranged on the opposite end faces of the housing, and with the input contacts being associated with one input side and the output contacts being associated with one output side,

and

the input contacts (228) are in the form of at least two mutually opposite rows (110, 112) of contacts, and the output contacts are in the form of at least one plug connector (114), with at least two input contacts (228) in the first row (110) and at least two input contacts (228) in the second row (112) being connected to the output contacts (284) in the at least one plug connector (114), and with the input contacts (228) in the first row and in the second row (110, 112) being connected via the at least one printed circuit board (106) to the output contacts in the plug connector.

All of the features of Claim 1 are thus known from D1, and the subject matter of Claim 1 is not novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

3. The additional features of Claims 2-12 are known from the prior art in the cited documents.

Claims 2-12 therefore do not satisfy the requirements of Article 33(3) PCT.